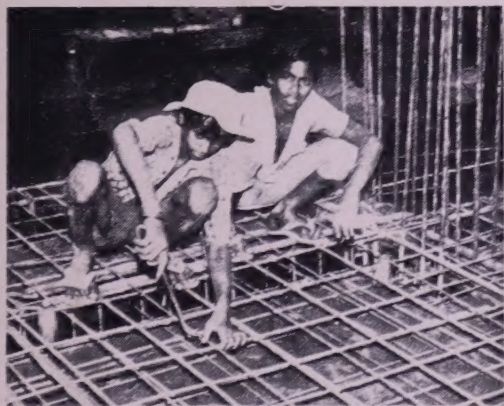


STREET CHILDREN....

WHAT IS
THEIR FUTURE?



OR
.... TO BE
REHABILITATED

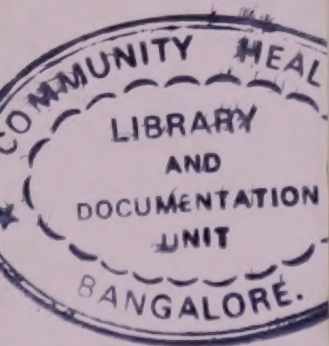


....TO SURVIVE ON
STREETS



REPORT OF THE
SEMINAR ON
STREET CHILDREN
HELD ON 3RD JUNE 1993
AT CITY Y.M.C.A.
BANGALORE INDIA

PROGRAMME ORGANISED BY
BANGALORE YMCA -
CHILDREN IN CRISIS
FOR THE NGO'S WORKING
FOR STREET CHILDREN



Community Health Cell

Library and Documentation Unit
BANGALORE

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FOREWORD

Continuous discussions, debates with regard to the issues of children in streets and in the poorer world is necessary because in the 20th century the barbaric society still exists, when we pass through the streets of mega cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Bangalore. In the urban scenario when a child faces a drunken father, harrassed mother, the cruel situation of home instead of love, child beating, shouting, physical violence, utter poverty makes a child run away in search of freedom and sanity. It adopts the streets as home and survives in the food doled out from dust-bins and drinking polluted water available in the foot paths. This situation is most dehumanising and a great shame to the civilized world of today. If children suffer, society has to bear the responsibility and protect the children on the face of this globe. Future belongs to these children. This is a great challenge and top priority on the agenda of human survival in the third millennium. The non-governmental organisations have a great responsibility to serve these homeless children who have adopted streets as their homes.

The night shelters where these children must be protected should be made more and more in number in the poorer areas of our city. In these night shelters a message of love, human warmth, forgiveness must be the attitudes shown to the children who visit in the nights and winning them over in a period of time and re-habilitate them on a development educational, process is first step on our business of life saving activity. These children are the first priority of any urban scenario in our nation.

May I congratulate the organisers who were able to bring out the consultation and give us the deeper understanding of life and struggle of these forgotten citizens of our city.

M.J. NARENDRANATH

General Secretary

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

One of the most widely accepted truths is that children are the biggest asset. The very future of our nation depends on the welfare of our kids. It is a tragedy that today the number of Street Children is increasing rapidly along with rapid urbanisation and industrialisation. Migration from rural areas to cities, broken families, urban poverty, city slums, ill-treatment by parents, craze of cities, attraction to films, population explosion, all have contributed to this reality which has to be faced by everyone. In India there are over 30 million street kids and in Bangalore City alone one of the fastest growing cities there are over 45,000 street children who have made the street their home looking upon it for love, care, material and psychological survival. They confront untold miseries living on the streets. (Police harassment, no protection, lack of security, exposed to cold and heat, dogbites, health hazards, etc).

Bangalore YMCA - Children in Crisis (C.I.C) is running a Night Shelters and Rehabilitation Project for Street Children since 1988. YMCA is organising this seminar on the theme: "Street Children. What is their future? To Survive on the street or to be rehabilitated". The main objective of this seminar is to discuss and deliberate on a very important concern whether NGOs should work and interact with street children only on the street itself conscientizing them and empowering them creating awareness about their exploitation or do NGOs work towards their ultimate rehabilitation.

This seminar would clear all doubts in the work with Street children by providing a platform for NGOs and Government to discuss, debate and deliberate on this social reality. The Report of this seminar will create public consciousness on the problems faced by street children and strengthen all those hands of concern in their interaction with street children.

I would like to conclude by quoting Michael Bonnet a Catholic Priest in Japan working with Child Labour in France "To Shake hands with a child in servitude is to be caught up in a process of changing the whole society". Concrete and effective

steps have to be taken immediately in interacting with street kids without delay because the Child's name is Today and it is he who is the World of Tomorrow.

- JOSEPH SELLADURAI
SECRETARY - CHILDREN IN CRISIS
Y.M.C.A. - BANGALORE.

INTRODUCTION

Children are the future of our nation and Childhood is said to be the foundation laying years in an individuals life. Whatever the child experiences through its social contacts at this stage of life becomes so deeply embedded in the child's mind, that it becomes so difficult to change it or remould it.

Children are influenced by the general culture through many different channels. Home influences probably outweigh the effects of all other environmental impacts combined in determining the fundamental organisation of the child's behaviour. But, for children, who have no home and who have no parents, to serve as role models, what influences them the most?

The increasing number of the Street Children-a unique culture, with different set of values, interests and life style, manifests a positive threat to a developing country like India, whose future lies in the hands of the Younger generation.

The Bangalore YMCA upholding its humanitarian values, conducted a one day seminar on "Street Children" at its CITY YMCA Premises. The topic for discussion being "STREET CHILDREN" - What is their future? To survive on the streets or to be rehabilitated. The organisations which participated in this seminar are BOSCO, REDS, MYTHRI, KSCCW, CCF KNH, K.H. CONVENT, DIAKONIA, ST. Lukes Rag Pickess Welfare Association, Universal Cultural Association, SACC, CWC, and ICSA.

The motive behind holding this event was to derive a common vision in working towards a common cause - "The Street Children". If there is no stronger vision, these children will perish.

Looking forward, for a positive outcome, the YMCA "CHILDREN IN CRISIS" master minded this event.

REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS

The event started with an invocation by the Children of YMCA CHILDREN IN CRISIS centre.

The welcome address on behalf of the host organisation was given by Mr. M. J. Narendranath, the General Secretary of Bangalore YMCA. He welcomed the gathering and said that the power of God-Love, has brought us together, without which we would not survive.

In his address he called the organisations, to care for these children, who do not have anyone to take care off and stressed that if we do not show our care in action, all our efforts would go in vain. He expressed his desire for such consultations to become greater events in future.

Self Introduction by the participants followed the welcome address.

The Chief Guest of the day was Mr. Krishna Raju, Joint Director, Department of Women and Child Welfare. He inaugurated the seminar by lighting the Traditional Lamp.

EXCERPTS FROM THE CHIEF GUEST'S ADDRESS:

The Chief Guest, at the outset expressed his happiness over YMCA - the pioneer organisation in many fields, for holding this seminar. He called this an opportunity to discuss indepth the problems of street children. The theme of the seminar was well appreciated.

He said in his address that the problem of street children is not a simple one, but to make an unruly robust child to come to the fort is a big task.

He pointed out, that the street children were given attention only at the call of UNICEF. After a national level consultation, the NGOs were asked to take up this issue seriously.

In his address, the chief guest also added that the Karnataka Government in 1989 started a scheme to fund the NGOs to work towards the street children and as per the ingredients, the Government has funded around 22 organisations, so far, but

unfortunately only a handful are working towards these children.

He said, only when this ask is taken up at war footing, the problem can be solved and not by mere sympathy. The work done in this direction should be constructive. This problem needs to be tackled without infringing the child's independence.

He condemned the bogus organisations and finally gave a cell to all the participant organisations to put in their sincere efforts in dealing with the problem of "Street Children".

The floor was open for discussions following the chief guest's address.

In answering to one of the questions-whether the street children are recognised as workers or rag pickers, Mr. Krishna Raju pointed out that according to the prevention of Child Labour Act and the Juvenile Justice Act (1986) the street children were not considered as workers.

He said inspite of all these acts, exploitation of children by employers, is rampant.

Fr. Vincent Xavier in answering to a question said, that the policy of the Government that all children below the age of 14 years should be given compulsory education and only after the age of 15, one should be exposed to vocation training, is a holistic approach for preventing the exploitation of children that is child labour.

He also added that according to the prohibition and Regulation of Child Labour Act (1986) the number of working hours of a child should not exceed 5 hours a day.

Thus the street children are not categorised as working children or child labourers, except for those who are employed in other forms of work.

The open discussion session also led to a suggestion from one of the participants to coin a common term that can be used in referring to these children. An appropriate definition of the terms 'Rag-picking' and 'Street Children' was also needed for the community of workers in this field.

Presentation

by Fr. George-Excerpts

Fr. George, the founder of BOSCO and a widely experienced personality in this field of work presented his analytical views on the question posed by the theme of the seminar.

At the outset he pointed out that often in the process of our day to day work, we concentrate on the streets and not on the child. Thus a call was given to shift our focus from street onto the child. He stressed that the child is an individual and when generalisation takes place the individuality is lost.

According to him the theme chosen for the seminar draws a diversified answer.

Before delving into the theme, the questions that he put forward for analysis were -

Are we witnessing the creation of a caste of the children, who are on the streets?

Will they become a reality to be dealt with?

Will this reality be permanent?

According to him the social reality pertaining to these children is that they are considered as a caste. When the social reality is analysed keeping in view-the theme, the questions that arise are-

- Should we give individual help or structuralise the aspect (go for structural change)

- Should NGOs' go to the street and create awareness

The next aspect dealt with was that of ideological divide which threw light on how the child labour act became impotent as NGOs' fought for ideological stand.

Individual rehabilitation was said to be absolutely necessary.

Discussing the holistic approach, he pointed out that we need to have a collaborative approach, and an analysis of this approach was necessary to see whether it is comprehensive or not. The holistic approach involved structural, social, economic and preliminary changes. He pointed out that a good partnership among the existing Society, Government, NGO's and children themselves were very vital for this approach.

Commenting on institutionalisation he said it was absolutely necessary, but the negative aspect was that it incurs high cost-per capita.

The holistic approach including the structural changes calls for greater participation of children themselves to fight for their rights. In simple words the children are the tools. The negative aspects of this approach was said to be that of the level of endurance the child has to stand for its change and that of getting the right when the child is no more a child. Also many a times the social transformation ends in confrontation where the child's rights are lost.

Another question that was put forward in analysing this approach was

- Whether the children are becoming spokespersons for the NGOs.

A 6 tier approach for the rehabilitation of street children adopted in South America was briefed. The disadvantage of this system were seen to be that not all children want to go through all the 6 stages of this system.

The Rehabilitation of Street Children

by Fr. Vincent Xavier-Excerpts

Fr. Vincent Xavier, Director, Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Madras presented a thought provoking paper on the rehabilitation of Street Children.

To begin with, he pointed out that our main aim of work with street children is to integrate them in the main stream of society as its integral member, productive bearer and custodian of its home. He viewed 'Rehabilitation' as an absolute necessity and said that the theme should be to debate how to rehabilitate nature of rehabilitation and modes of rehabilitation.

He stressed the need to evolve a different meaning to the term 'Rehabilitation' in the context of situation of street and working children. 'Rehabilitation' with reference to this context would be

1. Facilitating them to have a new healthy perception of events of their life, surroundings and their situation.
2. Granting them or enabling them to have a least of life.
3. Empowering them to cast off the old ways and put on new attitudes.
4. It indicates precipitating attitudinal revolution in children.
5. It also includes mending their ways and acquiring healthy habits for renewed actions.

On analysing the components of rehabilitation, it was stated to comprise of -

1. Personal life reformation

- a) Value inculcation
- b) Transformation of attitudes
- c) Development of sound moral sense
- d) Character reformation
- e) A sense of purpose

2. Normalising the process of Socialisation

- a) from being aggressive to availability
- b) from being indifferent to involving
- c) from being cold and secluded to being co-operative and for meaningful, interaction with the surrounding.

3. Economic measures to improve living conditions of children

- Shelter home services
- Medical attention
- Home settlement
- Education
- Technical Training
- Job placement
- Self employment Scheme

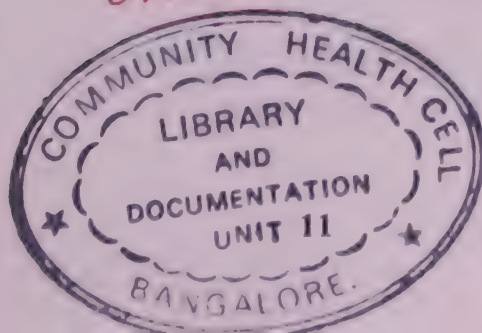
The following points were brought to ones attention as pre-requisites of rehabilitation:

- 1. Contact of Children in such a way that fellowship is established, loyalty ensured, confidence gained.
- 2. Understanding his present, in terms of his past, what are the experiences that rendered his life to the present conditions? How the past affects his present and future in order to be apathetic instead of being merely sympathetic.

3. Dialogue/Discussion with children individually to evolve suitable programme so that rehabilitation becomes a joint venture, children become partners in their progress.
4. Follow-up, failures, default, and laxity on the part of children would certainly come. As educators we have to accompany children all along and till such time they are able to cope up with renewed life situation. Referring to the agents of rehabilitation it was stated that the rehabilitation was a joint effort, a collaborative endeavor and an interaction of different factors, such as children, society and agency. It was pointed out that without children's role, rehabilitation is a failure.

Others factors contributing towards the failure of rehabilitation efforts were stated to be -

- Hasty planning by the agency where the society and children are excluded
- An attitude of condescending on the part of the agency.
- Lack of understanding of characteristics of children. i.e. improper screening.
- Lack of understanding of characteristics of street children
- The schemes conceived are unattractive, regimental and non-remunerative.



GROUP DISCUSSION

The Group Discussion that followed the Panel Presentation was based on three broad topics - Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation. The discussions on these topics were to centre around the aspects - strategies, methodology, process, eradication and future prospectives.

The outcome of the group discussion on the three broad topics are:

Prevention:

Prevention was said to be possible only at symptom level and not at the core level. No agency can assure that they can prevent the problem of street children.

- Awareness programmes can be implemented as a step towards prevention.
- Our attitudes and approaches should change for the better.
- Motivation of parents can act as a preventive step.
- Child to parent motivation through group discussions are advisable
- Prevention of rural-urban migration and Government's involvement in checking the menace of street children.
- Children themselves should be the deciding factor in future.

Protection:

Protection for survival, protection from police harassment and protection from the Government were the aspects covered under the topic 'Protection'.

- Children can protect themselves to some extent, but basic education is needed.
- Eradication should be viewed as a long term goal and rehabilitation should be the short term goal.

Rehabilitation:

Strategies for rehabilitation : Revamping the existing programmes and laying roads to new programmes-means to an end.

- In rehabilitation non-formal education is a must.
- Rehabilitation process should aim at making him a normal individual
- Age wise classification should form the basis for rehabilitation
- The period or duration of crisis should be taken into consideration in planning our strategies
- Dignity of labour should be inculcated in the children as well as the community.
- Study of situation and rehabilitation programme should be based on situation
- A need based sustainable-time bound rehabilitation should be planned.
- Fully trained personnel should deal with the personality development of these children. (Sustainable staff structure)
- The training should be a continuous process
- The children should be given responsibilities and freedom in small scale to inculcate moral values.
- Involvement of children in decision making and providing opportunities for leadership is vital for a successful rehabilitation process.
- Creating political awareness in street children and encouraging independence in the children so that they are not solely dependent on the NGOs.

Eradication is a conviction and Governmental support is needed in this endeavour.

Consolidated note:

All three groups arrived at a macro perspective approach. Structural displacement was seen as a factor giving rise to the problem of street children.

- Eradication is considered to be an utopian concept.
- Evaluation of projects is an important element in the amelioration of the present efforts.
- Networking among projects is a vital element in working towards street children.
- Integrated approach involving various professionals is needed for an effective programme.
- In Rural areas, Agencies should come together in working towards a common strategy for the eradication of street children.

CHAIRPERSON'S CONCLUDING REMARKS:

The Chairperson **DR. SAMUEL ISSMER** of **SACC** pointed out that the Group discussion has led to a decision that the street children are to be **rehabilitated**.

Rehabilitating that of self worth, of self emancipation is important.

When the child develops a sense of self worth, that is the turning point in street child's rehabilitation

The rehabilitation should be very strong. Intensive training programme for street children is needed.

Placement services should form an important part of the programme. Guidance programme is also very much essential.

VOTE OF THANKS

The seminar came to an end with vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Joseph Selladurai Secretary YMCA Children in Crisis.

CHILDREN IN CRISIS PROGRAMME

Ever since the days of Industrial Revolution, children have been seen working, living or loitering around in streets, cross roads, Public Parks, Parking lots, Marketing places, commercial centres, Tourist spots, railway stations and bus stations. The phenomenon of street children is an off shoot of the complex interplay of structural factors.

THE ROOT CAUSES OF THE PROBLEM:

It is estimated that there are more than Forty Five Thousand children on the street of Bangalore, who have taken street as an abode and spend a major portion of their time living and working on the street, disconcertingly visible, yet un-cared for, un-protected, often ignored, even shunned.

Street children are the products of rural to urban area migration, unemployment, poverty and broken homes, parental abuses and drug abuse. According to a UNICEF report, street children are a phenomenon of modern times, where urban centres in developing countries are faced with the process of rapid urbanisation.

Socio cultural factors and the pulls of urban life indeed have a role. The phenomenon of street children is an off shoot of the complex interplay of structural factors such as social attitudes, Government policies on economy, distribution of wealth, an in appropriate education system, famines, and droughts. These children are deprived of parental care and love, compassion and basic services such as shelter, nutrition, medical care, education and recreation.

These children struggle for survival. To survive they need to work. They are illiterate, unskilled. It is estimated that six out of ten street children turn to rag picking for their livelihood. Rag picking is definitely the most dehumanising occupation where the nature of the work and the work environment are most unhygienic, dangerous, filthy, demanding and destructing of self health.

The life on the street is unstructured and destabilizing with no guarantee for the next meal. They have no future. Future is dark and gloomy. They long for love, care and affection and became social outcasts. Despite this dismal picture and their desperate circumstances these children have a irresperable spirit and rare courage. They remain plucky, resourceful, ambitious and above all independent. They do not meekly submit themselves to this fate, but full of determination not just survive but struggle for a better life.

Y.M.C.A. HOSLISTIC APPROACH TO STREET CHILDREN REHABILITATION

The Bangalore Y.M.C.A. has tailored its programme according to the need of the community and priorities. The human resource development is the main concern of the Y.M.C.A. YMCA is concerned very much to humanise the dehumanised and repeople and depeopled and to uplift the deprived and marginalised. The Bangalore YMCA has been working with the street children since 1988. This programme is called Children in Crisis (Street Children). The YMCA has selected the following areas-Shivajinagar, Ulsoor, Murphy Town, Lingarajapuram, Banaswadi and Krishnarajapuram railway station. The YMCA's approach to the problem of street children is an integrated approach a holistic approach to provide Night Shelter for better hygiene, better living conditions, a skill training for better employment, sense of security, freedom and hope, opportunities provided to the children to develop their potential that ensure their self respect, self freedom, self reliance so that they live with dignity in the society.

Besides Night Shelter following facilities are offered to the children. Non formal education, skill training, street contact, health care, motivation camp, subsidised food, recreation, counseling and career guidance, promotion of healthy habit, career information and family replacement.

The need of the hour is vision. Motivation and the will to serve are more important factors than the resources and the part

of the Government and NGOs. Every community has people willing to respond in a possible way, if only given an opportunity. It is 'Everybody's responsibility to create it.

The Bangalore YMCA is organising this seminar on the theme. "STREET CHILDREN WHAT IS THEIR FUTURE? TO SURVIVE ON THE STREET OR TO BE REHABILITATED".

The YMCA has invited all the NGOs who are working with the street children and also various Government Departments, Corporation to participate in this seminar.

The objectives of the seminar are as follows:

1. To bring NGOs, Government Department, Corporation working with children together on a common platform to discuss the growing problem of street children.
2. To evolve common strategies and methodology to combat the problem of street children future.
3. To create public awareness as well as evoke public response.
4. To evolve a programme for professional training for the workers who are working with street children.

K.J. EDWARD KIRUBAKARAN
ASSOCIATE GEN. SECRETARY.
Y.M.C.A. - BANGALORE.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

SL NO.	NAME	OGANISATION
1.	MR. JOE PAUL	REDS
2.	MISS. KANCHANA	CWC
3.	MISS. M. SILVY	BOSCO
4.	MR. ANJANAPPA	KSCCW
5.	MR. SAMUEL FRANCIS	KNH
6.	MR. MOSES MANOHARAN	ICSA
7.	FR. GEORGE	BOSCO
8.	MR. SELVARAJ	YMCA (CIC)
9.	MR. STALLANIA RIESS	BOSCO
10.	MR. JOHN CHACO	KNH
11.	MR. SHAMANNA	MYTHRI
12.	MR. K.C. VENKATESH	CWC
13.	MR. NAGENDRA	MYTHRI
14.	MR. SADHAKSHARAIAH	KSCCW
15.	MR. PUSHPARAJ	REDS
16.	DR. SAMUEL ISSMER	SACCC
17.	MR. KANNAIAH	UNIVERSAL CULTURAL ASSOCIATION
18.	MR. MARIA LOUIS	YMCA (CIC)
19.	MR. KRISTIN VINORUM	BOSCO
20.	MR. GERALD	HOLLAND

21. MR. GEORGE RATNASAMY	KCD
22. MR. SAI KUMAR	CCF
23. FR. VARGHESE	BOSCO
24. MISS. SHARADA	MYTHRI
25. MR. SUNDER SINGH	KNH
26. MR. SRINIVASAN. J.	K.H.CONVENT
27. MISS. RADHA	REDS
28. MR. BENGT SWERLANDER	DIAKONIA
29. MR. FRANCIS. L.	YMCA (CIC)
30. MISS. ELIZEBETH	HOLLAND
31. FR. VINCENT	MADRAS- NNF CONVENER
32. MISS. ROSALINE SATYA	YMCA Bangalore
33. MR. JOSEPH SELLADURAI (Secretary)	YMCA Bangalore.

Declaration of the Rights of the Child

20 November 1959

Principle 1

Equal rights without distinction or discrimination on account of race, religion, origin or sex.

Principle 2

The right to opportunities to develop physically, mentally, morally, spiritually and socially in a healthy and normal manner.

Principle 3

The right to a name and nationality.

Principle 4

The right to adequate nutrition, housing and medical care.

Principle 5

The right to special treatment for the handicapped.

Principle 6

The right to love, understanding and protection.

Principle 7

The right to free education, play and recreation.

Principle 8

The right to immediate assistance in the event of catastrophe.

Principle 9

The right to protection against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation.

Principle 10

The right to protection against any form of discrimination and to an upbringing in a spirit of friendship among peoples peace and brotherhood.

The Convention

Fifty-four articles
to improve the situation
of children

The Convention covers four
main categories of rights



CARLOS
DUDEK

Survival

Ensuring to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child (art. 5 and 6). It is particularly the responsibility of parents and, where necessary, the State, to provide for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development. In cases of emergency, the States parties to the Convention undertake to provide support programmes, particularly with regard to nutrition, clothing and housing (art. 27). The Convention also states that where Governments are unable to guarantee health services for children, the international community must promote co-operation in order to do so. (art. 24).

This includes access to information, education, the right to play and recreation, to participation in cultural activities and freedom of thought, conscience and religion. Education is covered by two crucial articles (arts. 28 and 29) which have been underpinned by the **World Conference on Education for All** (Thailand, March 1990). Under the Convention, primary education must be compulsory, free of charge and must encourage the development of the child's personality while respecting the child's identity.

This encompasses measures to protect children against all forms of exploitation and cruel treatment, abuses of the criminal justice system and arbitrary separation from their families. The Convention is the first international agreement to raise the delicate and tragic issues of refugee children (art. 2), protection against sexual and economic exploitation (arts. 34 and 36), the drug problem (art. 33), children in armed conflicts (arts 38 and 39), inter-country adoption (art. 21), the problems of handicapped children (art. 23) and the problems

Development

Protection

Participation



DAVINIA
OUEITE

of children belonging to indigenous or minority communities (art. 30).

The Convention highlights the fundamental principle that the views of the child should always be taken into account. Rights concerned with participation thus include freedom of expression and the right to take an active part in public life generally. These rights are particularly important in the case of legal and administrative procedures directly affecting children (art. 12).

Highlights of the Convention

Every child has the inherent right to life, and States shall ensure to the maximum child survival and development.

Every child has the right to a name and nationality from birth.

When courts, welfare institutions or administrative authorities deal with children, the child's best interests shall be a primary consideration. The child's opinions shall be given careful consideration.

States shall ensure that each child enjoys full rights without discrimination or distinctions of any kind.

Children should not be separated from their parents, unless by competent authorities for their well-being.

States should facilitate reunification of families by permitting travel into, or out of, their territories.

Parents have the primary responsibility for a child's upbringing, but States shall provide them with appropriate assistance and develop child-care institutions.

States shall provide parentless children with suitable alternative care. The adoption process shall be carefully regulated and international agreements should be sought to provide safeguards and assure legal validity if and when adoptive parents intend to move the child from his or her country of birth.

Disabled children shall have the right to special treatment, education and care.



The child is entitled to the highest attainable standard of health. States shall ensure that care is provided to all children, placing emphasis on preventive measures, health, education and reduction of infant mortality.

Primary education shall be free and compulsory, discipline in schools should respect the child's dignity. Education should prepare the child for life in a spirit of understanding, peace and tolerance.

Children shall have time to rest and play and equal opportunities for cultural and artistic activities.

States shall protect the child from economic exploitation and work that may interfere with education or be harmful to health and well-being.

States shall protect children from the illegal use of drugs and involvement in drug production or trafficking.

All efforts shall be made to eliminate the abduction and trafficking of children.

Capital punishment or life imprisonment shall not be imposed for crimes committed before the age of 18.

Children in detention should be separated from adults; they must not be tortured or suffer cruel and degrading treatment.

No child under 15 should take any part in hostilities; children exposed to armed conflict shall receive special protection.

Children of minority and indigenous populations shall freely enjoy their own culture, religion and language.

Children who have suffered maltreatment, neglect or detention should receive appropriate treatment or training for recovery and rehabilitation.

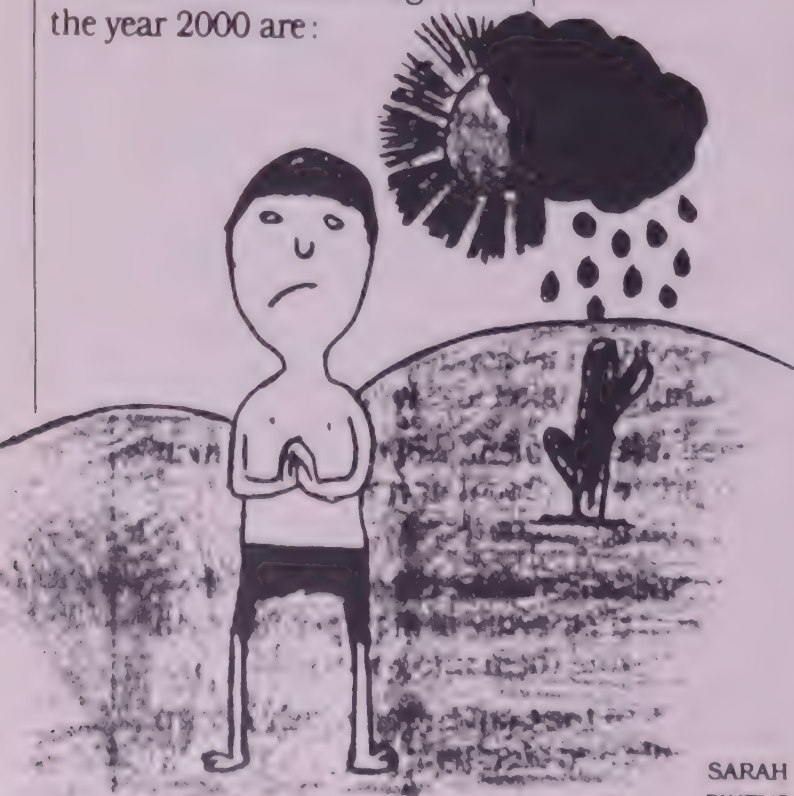
Children involved in infringements of the penal law shall be treated in a way that promotes their sense of dignity and worth and aims at reintegrating them into society.

States should make the rights in the Convention widely known to both adults and children.

WORLD SUMMIT
FOR CHILDREN

Targets for 2000

To lend substance to their commitments, the 71 Heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Children adopted a plan of action for implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children. The seven main targets for the year 2000 are:



SARAH
PINTUS

1

Reducing mortality for children under five by one third, in part by combating diarrhoeal diseases, measles, tetanus, whooping-cough and pneumonia.

2

Halving the 1990 maternal mortality rate.

3

Halving the incidence of severe and moderate malnutrition among children under five.



Plan-les-Ouates
school's pupils

4

Providing universal access to
safe drinking water and sani-
itary means of excreta disposal.

5

Providing universal access to
basic education and completion
of primary education by at least
90 per cent of primary-school-
children.

6

Reducing the adult illiteracy rate
to no more than half the 1990
level, with emphasis on female
literacy.

7

Protection of children in espe-
cially difficult circumstances,
particularly in situations of
armed conflict.

Young Men's Christian Association

CHILDREN IN CRISIS PROGRAMME

Office: 66, Infantry Road, Bangalore - 560 001

Phone: Off. 5591681

Fax-091 - 080 - 0 2224031

YMCA CHILDREN IN CRISIS REHABILITATION CENTRE

Near NGEF, 470, Sadananda Nagar,
Indiranagar Post, Bangalore - 560 038

YMCA CHILDREN IN CRISIS WORKSHOP

(Welding, Spray Painting, Tinkering & 2 Wheeler Mechanism)

Near NGEF. 160/1, Sadananda Nagar,
Indiranagar Post, Bangalore - 560 038

YMCA NIGHT SHELTER

No. 72, 6th Cross, Brindavan Layout
Kothur Vijinapura, K.R. Puram, Bangalore - 560 016

YMCA NIGHT SHELTER

Corporation Community Hall,
Murphy Town, Bangalore - 560 008

YMCA NON FORMAL EDUCATION CENTRE

Sathyanarayana Temple Street,
Ulsoor, Bangalore - 560 008